

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TOKYO 17505 140719Z
ACTION EB-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 EUR-08 IO-06 NEA-06
L-01 H-01 NSC-05 INR-05 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02 ARA-06
AF-04 OES-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
NSAE-00 /076 W

-----117790 140729Z /21

R 140650Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2711
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

S E C R E T TOKYO 17505

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, OPEC, JA
SUBJECT: DEMARCHES TO OPEC ON OIL PRICE QUESTION

REF: A) STATE 271013, B) STATE 270676, C) STATE 270637,
D) TOKYO 17285

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER RECEIPT REFTELS A, B, AND C, SATURDAY
MORNING, ECOUNS RAISED ISSUE OF PERCEPTIONS OF JAPANESE
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CONCERN OVER OIL PRICE RISE WITH FOREIGN OFFICE (HYODO,
DIRECTOR RESOURCES DIVISION - RESPONSIBLE FOR OIL MATTERS).
HYODO CONTRADICTED SADLI'S REPORT THAT OIL PRICES
HAD NOT BEEN RAISED IN HIS MEETING WITH YOSHINO, INSISTING THAT HE
HAD BEEN PRESENT AT THE MEETING AT WHICH OIL WAS THE MAIN TOPIC
OF CONVERSATION AND THE PRICE ISSUE TOOK UP MOST OF
THE DISCUSSION. HYODO SAID THAT RADIUS WAS EXPECTED

TO VISIT TOKYO IN THE NEAR FUTURE, AND THE GOJ WOULD
MAKE THE SAME POINTS WITH HIM.

2. WITH REGARD TO THE REPORT FROM KUWAIT ON THE LACK
OF INSTRUCTIONS, HYODO SAID THAT INSTRUCTIONS WERE
IN PREPARATION, AND WOULD GO OUT SOON.

3. COMMENT. WE WILL FOLLOW UP IN A COUPLE OF DAYS
ON THE MATTER OF THE JAPANESE INSTRUCTIONS. IN THE
MEANTIME, WE SUSPECT THAT YOSHINO'S WELL-KNOWN COUR-
TESY MAY HAVE LEFT SADLI WITH THE PERCEPTION THAT
JAPAN IS NOT CONCERNED ABOUT OIL PRICE RISES. ON
THE OTHER HAND, AS DEPARTMENT KNOWS, JAPAN'S DIPLO-
MATIC STYLE IN GENERAL IS HARDLY THE TABLE-POUNDING
VARIETY. ADDED TO THIS IS A RELUCTANCE TO ANTAGONIZE
ITS OIL SUPPLIERS, AND PERHAPS A SLIGHT FEELING THAT,
GIVEN INFLATION RATES (OVER 5 PERCENT IN JAPAN, US, UK,
CANADA, FRANCE, AND ITALY), PERHAPS A 5 PERCENT HIKE FOR
OIL MIGHT NOT BE SO UNREASONABLE.
MANSFIELD

SECRET

NNN

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